

For information, contact:
Monica Smith
Jaffe PR for Cole Schotz
(407) 644-1337
msmith@jaffepr.com

Cole Schotz Welcomes Richard J. Ericsson as Environmental Law Department Chair

HACKENSACK, N.J., October 3, 2011 – The law firm of Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A. is pleased to announce the addition of Richard J. Ericsson as a member and chair of the firm’s Environmental Law practice. Mr. Ericsson will be based in the firm’s Hackensack, N.J. office. He was previously with Farer Fersko in Westfield.

“The extensive capabilities and breadth of Richard’s experience greatly enhance our existing Environmental Law practice,” says Michael D. Sirota, co-managing shareholder of Cole Schotz. “His prior government experience, combined with his practical approach in confronting complex environmental matters, makes him a standout in the environmental law arena. We are thrilled that he has joined our firm.”

Mr. Ericsson joins Cole Schotz with 25 years of experience in counseling clients nationwide on the impact of environmental laws on business. Recognized by clients in *Chambers USA* for his “strategic business mind and keen ear for listening,” his skill in evaluating environmental issues has gained him a reputation as a problem solver and trusted advisor. Mr. Ericsson’s experience includes counseling clients on the impact of environmental laws on corporate and property transactions and financing, the cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated properties, responding to governmental enforcement actions, and air, water and waste regulatory compliance. His practice also concentrates on issues related to development permits, environmental insurance, brownfield funding and cost recovery.

Prior to joining his previous firm, Mr. Ericsson was an attorney with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, where he handled enforcement of Superfund and Spill Act cleanup obligations as well as air water and waste regulatory requirements.

“Cole Schotz has an excellent regional reputation throughout New Jersey and the Mid-Atlantic,” adds Mr. Ericsson. “I am very excited to bring my experience to an outstanding group of business and environmental attorneys.”

Mr. Ericsson serves as co-chair of the Regulatory Affairs Committee for the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) New Jersey Chapter. He is past chair of the American Bar Association’s Environmental Transactions and Brownfields Committee, part of the organization’s Section of Environment, Energy and Resources. He has been recognized by his peers and clients as a leader in his field through accolades such as *Chambers USA* and *New Jersey Super Lawyers*.

Mr. Ericsson earned his undergraduate degree at Skidmore College and his law degree at Vermont Law School. He is a frequent speaker on environmental and brownfields topics.

Cole Schotz serves clients throughout the U.S. with offices in New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland and Texas. The firm represents closely held businesses and individuals as well as Fortune 500 companies. Founded in 1928, the firm has grown to 120 attorneys who work in nine primary areas of practice: Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring; Litigation; Real Estate; Tax, Trusts & Estates; Corporate, Finance & Business Transactions; Employment; Environmental; Intellectual Property and Construction Services.

###